

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 200523

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, YO

SUBJECT: ASSISTANT SECRETARY STOESSEL'S MEETING WITH
AMBASSADOR GRANFIL: MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

1. SUMMARY. ASSISTANT SECRETARY STOESSEL CALLED IN YUGO-SLAV AMBASSADOR GRANFIL TO EXPRESS US CONCERN ABOUT A NUMBER OF RECENT YUGOSLAV STATEMENTS AND ACTIONS WHICH REFLECT LITTLE CONSIDERATION FOR US INTERESTS AND SENSITIVITIES. AMONG THESE ACTIVITIES ARE TREATMENT YUGOSLAVS RECENTLY GAVE TO PRGSVN DELEGATION, ALLEGATIONS AND INNUENDO CONCERNING US RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILEAN COUP, AND
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YUGOSLAV STATEMENTS AND ACTIONS IN UN. EXISTENCE OF THESE PROBLEM AREAS DID NOT CREATE PROPITIOUS ATMOSPHERE FOR A MEETING BETWEEN YUGOSLAV FOREIGN SECRETARY AND SECRETARY KISSINGER. VISIT BY DEFENSE SECRETARY SCHLESINGER NOW

SUBJECT TO REVIEW. GRANFIL CLAIMED DIFFERENCES BETWEEN US AND YUGOSLAVIA, WHICH HE TERMED A "REAL" NON-ALIGNED COUNTRY, WERE INEVITABLE, BUT CHARACTERIZED US-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS AS BASICALLY GOOD. YUGOSLAVIA'S POLICIES AND ACTIVITIES, HE MAINTAINED, ARE NOT ANTI-US.

2. FOLLOWING FOREIGN SECRETARY MINIC'S DEPARTURE FROM US, ASSISTANT SECRETARY (EUR) STOESSEL CALLED IN YUGOSLAV AMBASSADOR GRANFIL OCTOBER 9 TO REVIEW A NUMBER OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS WHICH CAST A SHADOW ON US-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS.

(C) ACTIVITY AT UN. WE UNDERSTAND THAT YUGOSLAVIA IS NON-ALIGNED. HOWEVER, WE DO NOT UNDERSTAND WHY YUGOSLAVIA MUST ACCEPT EVERY POSITION THE NON-ALIGNED MAJORITY HAS ENDORSED. YUGOSLAVIA SEEMS AT TIMES TO TAKE THE LEAD IN SUPPORTING AND ENDORSING A NON-ALIGNED POSITION ON A GIVEN ISSUE. THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL RECENT ISSUES BEFORE UN ON WHICH YUGOSLAV SPOKESMEN HAVE MIS-REPRESENTED OR IGNORED THE US POSITION:

1. CAMBODIA - YUGOSLAV SPOKESMEN HAVE CALLED FOR A HALT TO FOREIGN INTERVENTION BUT THEY TALK ONLY ABOUT INTERVENTION ON SIDE OF THE LON NOL GOVERNMENT. ONLY FOREIGN FORCES INVOLVED IN CAMBODIA ARE NORTH VIETNAMESE. THIS FACT HAS TO BE RECOGNIZED.

2. KOREA - RECENT SPEECHES BY RANKING YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS HAVE ALLEGED THAT US IS ATTEMPTING TO PERPETUATE THE DIVISION OF KOREA. THIS IS NOT AN EVEN-HANDED APPROACH. US, WHICH HAS LONG SUPPORTED EFFORTS TO RESOLVE KOREAN QUESTION, BELIEVES THAT JUNE 23 INITIATIVES OF ROK PRESIDENT ARE CONSTRUCTIVE STEPS TOWARD THAT END AND TOWARD FUTURE REUNIFICATION OF KOREA.

US NOTES GOY PAST SUPPORT OF PRINCIPLE OF UNIVERSALITY IN UN. THEREFORE, IT IS DIFFICULT FOR US TO UNDERSTAND GOY'S OPPOSITION TO ENTRY OF THE TWO KOREAS.

3. CHILE (UNSC MEETING) - THERE WAS RUMOR CIRCULATED BY MEMBERS OF YUGOSLAV UN DELEGATION LAST MONTH THAT US WOULD REFUSE TO PARTICIPATE IN A UNSC MEETING
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ON CHILE. THIS SIMPLY NOT TRUE. US HAS NEVER BOYCOTTED A UNSC MEETING. YUGOSLAV UN MISSION SHOULD HAVE CHECKED WITH USUN BEFORE CIRCULATING RUMOR.

4. PANAMA - DURING RECENT VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA, GENERAL TORRIJOS, PRIME MINISTER OF PANAMA, WAS INTERVIEWED BY YUGOSLAV PRESS AGENCY. INTERVIEWER ASKED TORRIJOS WHETHER "CERTAIN CIRCLES IN WASHINGTON" WISHED TO QUIET HIM. US FEELS THIS WAS A TENDENTIOUS QUESTION, ESPECIALLY FROM THE SEMI-OFFICIAL TANJUG. US AND PANAMA ARE ENGAGED IN NEGOTIATIONS CONCERNING FUTURE OF THE PANAMA CANAL. QUESTION OF CANAL IS VERY IMPORTANT TO US INTERESTS. US WANTS YUGOSLAVIA TO UNDERSTAND THIS.

5. GIVEN PARTICULAR PROBLEM AREAS OUTLINED ABOVE, US DID NOT FEEL ATMOSPHERE OR TIMING WAS FAVORABLE FOR MEETING BETWEEN FOREIGN SECRETARY MINIC AND SECRETARY KISSINGER.

6. GRANFIL THANKED STOESSEL FOR HIS FRANKNESS, WHICH HE TERMED A NECESSARY INGREDIENT FOR MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING. POINTING TO HIS RECENT MEETINGS WITH DEPUTY SECRETARY RUSH

AND UNDER SECRETARY PORTER, GRANFIL SAID HE BELIEVED IT WAS WELL UNDERSTOOD THAT BASIS OF US-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS, AS INDICATED IN TWO PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNIQUE, SHOULD BE FULL APPRECIATION OF EACH OTHER'S POINT OF VIEW AND DIFFERENT POLITICAL STRUCTURES. DIFFERENCES BETWEEN US AND YUGOSLAVIA ARE INEVITABLE AND MANY OF PRESENT DIFFERENCES ARE NOT NEW ONES. ALTHOUGH THERE ARE SOME UNNECESSARY SHADOWS IN US-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS, THESE RELATIONS ARE BASICALLY GOOD. THE CONCERNS AND COMMENTS VOICED BY STOESSEL WOULD BE CONVEYED TO GOY.

7. CHILE. GRANFIL SAID HE TOLD AMBASSADOR SCALI DURING RECENT CONVERSATION IN NEW YORK HE HAD IMPRESSION THAT ACTIONS AND STATEMENTS OF YUGOSLAV REPRESENTATIVES TO UN HAD BEEN EXAGGERATED BY US. MINIC SPEECH AT UNGA WAS GOOD EXAMPLE. GRANFIL AND MINIC DISCUSSED AND RE-READ MINIC'S UNGA SPEECH. IT CONTAINED NO REFERENCE TO ANY USG ROLE IN CHILE. SOME US CORPORATIONS HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN CHILE "FROM BEGINNING." IF YUGOSLAV OFFICIALS
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SPEAK OF AMERICAN INVOLVEMENT, THEY DO NOT MEAN USG INVOLVEMENT. RATHER, THEY ARE REFERRING TO CERTAIN ELEMENTS IN AMERICAN SOCIETY WHICH INFLUENCED EVENTS IN CHILE. YUGOSLAVS WERE QUITE SHOCKED ABOUT KILLING OF ALLENDE AND CONTINUED "KILLINGS" IN CHILE. YUGOSLAV SENTIMENTS REGARDING CHILE AND ALLENDE WERE NOT ANTI-US. STOESSEL INTERRUPTED TO OBSERVE US HAD QUITE DIFFERENT IMPRESSION OF MINIC'S SPEECH.

8. INDO-CHINA. US AND YUGOSLAVIA HAVE HAD DIFFERENT OPINIONS ABOUT VIET-NAM AND CAMBODIA. YUGOSLAVS HAVE GREAT SYMPATHY FOR "CAMBODIAN FREEDOM FIGHTERS" WHOSE STRUGGLE RESEMBLES YUGOSLAVIA'S OWN EXPERIENCE. YUGOSLAVIA FEELS SIHANOUK'S GOVERNMENT IS LEGAL GOVERNMENT WHICH WAS OVERTHROWN BY MILITARY COUP. YUGOSLAVIA STILL BELIEVES RETURN TO POWER OF SIHANOUK IS BEST SOLUTION. YUGOSLAVS ARE CONVINCED SIHANOUK IS AND WILL REMAIN NON-ALIGNED.

9. PRGSVN. YUGOSLAVIA, GRANFIL NOTED, RECOGNIZES PRGSVN. IN GOY'S VIEW, THO STRICTLY AFFIRMED FULL APPLICATION OF PARIS AGREEMENTS DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA. THO FEELS THIEU GOVERNMENT IS UNWILLING TO

SEE FORMATION OF A COALITION GOVERNMENT IN SOUTH VIET-NAM. YUGOSLAV POLICY ON THIS ISSUE IS NOT ANTI-AMERICAN, GRANFIL MAINTAINED.

10. YUGOSLAVIA'S NON-ALIGNED POLICY AND US. YUGOSLAVIA IS A REAL NON-ALIGNED COUNTRY, SAID GRANFIL. YUGOSLAVIA PAYS VERY GREAT ATTENTION TO ITS RELATIONS WITH US AND TO ROLE THESE RELATIONS PLAY WITH REGARD TO YUGOSLAVIA'S SITUATION IN WORLD. YUGOSLAVIA FEELS US-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS ARE BASED ON NOTION OF INDEPENDENT APPROACHES TO ISSUED BY SOVEREIGN COUNTRIES. WHEN GRANFIL SUGGESTED US MIGHT NOT BE USED TO A SMALL COUNTRY PLAYING SUCH A ROLE, STOESEL DEMURRED.

11. MINIC-KISSINGER MEETING. YUGOSLAVIA, SAID GRANFIL, WAS VERY MUCH INTERESTED IN SEEING A MINIC-KISSINGER MEETING. SUCH A MEETING COULD HAVE BEEN USEFUL DESPITE CERTAIN DIFFERENCES AND MISUNDERSTANDINGS BETWEEN THE CONFIDENTIAL

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TWO COUNTRIES. YUGOSLAVIA IS NOT VERY HAPPY THAT THIS MEETING COULD NOT BE ARRANGED. STILL, YUGOSLAVIA HOPES TO SEE SUCH MEETINGS TAKE PLACE IN FUTURE.

12. KISSINGER VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA. GRANFIL EXPRESSED HOPE THAT SECRETARY KISSINGER COULD PUT A VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA ON HIS CALENDAR FOR 1974.

13. THE SECRETARY'S SPEECH TO UNGA. YUGOSLAVS WERE UNHAPPY WITH THE SECRETARY'S REMARKS ABOUT NON-ALIGNMENT IN HIS UNGA ADDRESS, GRANFIL DECLARED. THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES ARE NOT GOING TO CREATE A BLOC. IN US VIEW, INTERJECTED STOESEL, NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES SEEM MORE AND MORE TO BEHAVE AS A BLOC. GRANFIL DISAGREED. WHAT NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES HAVE IN COMMON, HE SAID, ARE DESIRE FOR SOVEREIGNTY AND INDEPENDENCE PLUS CERTAIN "ELEMENTS" IN SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC SPHERES. NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES ARE NOT NEUTRAL; THEY ARE VERY ACTIVE IN INTERNATIONAL FORUMS.

14. YUGOSLAV ACTIVITIES IN UN. YUGOSLAVIA ALWAYS WORKS TO PROMOTE REALISTIC SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS IN UN, GRANFIL CLAIMED. YUGOSLAVIA IS NOT ORIGINATING ANTI-US ACTIONS. PERHAPS US HAS NOTED YUGOSLAVIA DID NOT SPONSOR PROPOSAL RE PUERTO RICO (FOR A HEARING FOR PUERTO RICAN INDEPENDENCE LEADERS AT AUGUST 23 MEETING OF COMMITTEE OF 24) AT UN.

15. SCHLESINGER VISIT. WHEN GRANFIL INDICATED YUGOSLAVS LOOK FORWARD TO VISIT OF SECRETARY OF DEFENSE SCHLESINGER "SOON", STOESEL SAID THIS MATTER IS STILL OPEN AND IS

UNDER REVIEW.

16. STOESEL CONCLUDED BY OBSERVING THAT US VALUES ITS RELATIONS WITH YUGOSLAVIA AND SUPPORTS YUGOSLAVIA'S NON-ALIGNMENT. US HOPES THAT, PARTICULARLY IN AREAS WHERE THERE IS A QUITE OBVIOUS US INTEREST, YUGOSLAVS WILL CONSIDER THIS INTEREST AND WEIGH THEIR WORDS AND ACTIONS CAREFULLY.

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17. SEPTTEL ON MIDDLE EAST.

18. COMMENT: EMBASSY SHOULD FIND EARLY OCCASION AT SENIOR LEVEL OF FSFA TO REITERATE POINTS MADE BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY STOESEL. THERE IS NO DESIRE TO SEE DAMAGE TO US-YUGOSLAV RELATIONS, WHICH ARE DEVELOPING WELL AS EVIDENCED BY SUBSTANCE AND TONE OF SHULTZ/DENT VISIT. NEVERTHELESS, US SENSITIVITIES ON ABOVE-DESCRIBED ISSUES ARE REAL AND YUGOSLAVS SHOULD BE LEFT IN NO DOUBT THAT THEIR POSITIONS ON THESE ISSUES ARE NOT IGNORED BY US. KISSINGER

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